

Pastoral Advisory Council Minutes August 14, 2023 7:00 PM

Attending: Fr. Michael, Fr. Ike, Monte Hauserman, Emily Krivacek, Amy Biedermann, Rob Kachmar, Greg Humensky, Greg Polito, Steve Wyse, Barbie Fitzgerald, Anika Garcia

Absent: Julia Beckley, Ivan Calil, Barbara Cole, Steve Welsh, Harry Kaplun, Tyson Theilen

Opening Prayer: Monte

General

- PAC Planning for the future - Monte
 - Please reach out and ask people in the community to prayerfully consider joining.
 - We'll also be introducing a high school participant on the council.
 - We will be starting a new 5-year council strategic plan, because we've already completed the current one. Be thinking thru the following questions:
 - How well is the mission of the church understood?
 - Do you leave mass feeling spiritually fed?
 - Do you feel the church is sensitive to the needs of the parishioners?
 - Do you feel engaged with the church?
 - Do you feel welcomed at church?

Pastor's Report: *Fr. Michael reported:*

- Sacramental Update
 - Welcome Father Ikenna "Fr. Ike". He will be the Director of Liturgy. He is currently working to refine our church procedures to help us prepare for the new sanctuary. The goal is for parishioners to enter mass and experience true peace in the environment. Look for more information about it in the "liturgical corner" section of the bulletin.
- School Update
 - School enrollment is at 769. We budgeted for 775, and 5 families are scheduled on tours.
- Finances
 - We recently received a pledge of \$40K for candle stands in the church and chapel.

- We already sold 224 pavers, which has earned us \$336K toward the stain glass windows in the Cupola.
- We decided to finish out the Columbarium in our last meeting. The Finance committee set the niche price at \$7K, given market costs at other parishes. The new price also allows us to escrow 25% of it for perpetual maintenance of the Columbarium. A new pergola will be constructed in the Columbarium to replace the older one that was damaged. Only parishioners as of last year are eligible to purchase a niche.
- We continue to receive payments on pledges with minimal defaults.
- Facilities
 - The Phase 3 Event Center, which is comprised of the Welcome Center, Parish Offices, Media Center, Faith Formation area, Nursery, Sacristies, and Parish Hall, will be blessed this Sunday, August 20th at 11:15 am by Fr. Tom; coffee and donuts to follow in the Cana Center.
 - We will begin moving into the new offices on Monday, August 21st.
 - The mosaic for the dove is on site. Two artists are coming from Italy on Sept 5th to install it over a 30-day period.
 - Support poles are being removed from the sanctuary. The architectural engineer who constructed the roof did his job. The structural engineers are confident it will go smoothly, and they will continue to monitor the progress with detailed sensor equipment before, during, and after.
 - They will be pouring a new foundation once the support poles are removed.
 - We're still pushing hard to get into the sanctuary by Christmas.
 - The Finance committee approved the school perimeter fence, but now we are waiting on the city to approve.
 - Larry Wansley's campus security assessment has been handed over to the SAC. He affirmed our inner circle and secondary circle safety procedures, but encouraged us to secure our third, outer circle security system.
 - We have a third-party consultant coming in to figure out what is needed to fine tune our new chillers with the old ones.

Facilities and Finance

- *Building:*
 - Covered in the Pastor's report above.
- *Finance: Tyson reported via Monte:*
 - Parish and School Budgets from July 2023 through June 2024 were approved.
 - Collections represent a 3% increase over previous years.
 - We currently have a count of 3,092 families, with more expected to return once we're back in the sanctuary and out of the gym.
 - There was no discussion or budgeting for weddings or other events yet.
 - Music department resources were reduced by 25% from the parish budget, but the school is covering 25% of one resource.

- St. Vincent de Paul does a significant outreach for the parish, so much of the charity flows through the organization.
- Shared expenses with the school are \$873K.
- \$3m remaining to collect from pledges over \$25K, with \$1.6m to be collected by the end of the calendar year.
- Many of the building supplies are pre-bought, as just-in-time won't work in the current environment.
- Rich Frasco has appliances down to ~\$45K of the \$50K pledge.

Pillar Subcommittee Reports:

- *Communications and Technology: Julia reported via Monte:*
 - We successfully launched our new brand, and we're working toward phasing out the previous branding.
 - We are updating letterhead, business cards, envelopes, our website, social media, the bulletin, etc.
 - We're going to get a 10x10 ft photo backdrop for guests to take photos in front of on Sundays and Holy Days. St. Ann's in Coppell does something similar, and it's really successful.
 - We're getting custom pens and lanyards.
 - Car window decals should be arriving in September/October.
 - Staff and Ushers will be getting magnetic name tags.
 - The website has a new "Plan Your Visit" page, complete with videos showing how to walk to different locations on campus.
 - The website also has a new "let us know you're coming" RSVP form. Three families have already used it to let us know they were attending mass, which has allowed us to reach out ahead of their visit and offer a tour of the parish.
 - Ministry Leader Orientation is September 9th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. All ministry leaders are invited and will receive a free t-shirt.
 - We will be updating the TV monitors in the Welcome Center.
 - We're ordering branded Welcome Bags and Parish Brochures for new members.
 - The Christmas yard sign campaign is coming this fall.
 - No Turkey Trot this year unless there is a significant demand.
- *Young Church and Young Adults: Ivan reported via Monte:*
 - We have 70 registered teens.
 - We're still looking for a few more adult volunteers for middle school ministry; reach out to Erin or Malcom if interested.
 - There will be a Two-Step Social in September with St. Francis and St. Gabriel's young adult ministries.
 - Erin is expecting and going on maternity leave in January.
 - Michael is going to have activities for any parents waiting on their children in the youth ministries on Sundays.

- *Adult Faith: Amy reported:*
 - RCIA and adult sacrament prep are meeting regularly.
 - Alpha will begin Wednesday, September 13th.
 - Ministry orientation welcome back event in September to discuss logistics.
 - Christ Life is a new 7-week series starting after Alpha.
 - We are rolling out a new 26-week bible study in the evenings, covering Genesis to Revelations; it a program developed by Jeff Cavin. (Great Adventure Bible Timeline)
 - We're planning 2 international pilgrimages in 2024.
 - We're preparing for the Eucharistic Revival Conference in Indiana in 2024.
 - We are preparing to have monthly morning retreats starting in Advent.

- *Children's Ministry: Anika reported:*
 - We are set with primary instructors but would like more assistants to volunteer.

- *Marriage Ministry: Barbie reported:*
 - KoC is putting on a Top Golf tournament to benefit family life ministries.
 - Married couple socials are coming up.
 - Beginning September 9th, the ministry will have nursery support.

- *POP School: Emily reported:*
 - Replaced the entire playground area with turf, as well as the replacing the sandbox area in the CLC with turf.
 - Repaired or replaced drainage pipes, 27 windows, wallpaper, and directional signs throughout the school.
 - Rubberized the central stairwell.
 - Cleaned up debris around the creek, which had become a homeless encampment.
 - Installed new blinds in all the classrooms.
 - Replaced the HVAC unit in the upstairs classrooms that were damaged last winter by the leak.
 - Replaced rugs in various rooms, ensuring consistency, to make them easy to replace.
 - Widen the advancement hallway to connect with parish offices, as part of the Phase II construction project.
 - Received a \$35K gift in furniture from VARI corporation for the parish and school offices.
 - Polished trophies and improved signage and pictures in the hallway behind the gym.
 - The new library will be opening soon after school starts, provided we get our temporary certificate of occupancy from the city.
 - The federal grant of \$550K we obtained in April is allowing us to expand our webcams to include the parking lots and fields, improve our tech infrastructure

to handle all the digital data, purchase 250+ iPads for younger grades, and get new laptops for our teachers.

- Plano has a 5ft restriction on fences for private schools but we're looking to build one at 8ft for security purposes. We're applying for a variance with the Board of Adjusters.
 - The night cleaning crew has been replaced, and the school is notably cleaner.
 - We're working with the parish to establish a new door security system for the entire campus. The system will use mobile phones and assign security access to doors based on day and time range. For example, a DPL basketball coach could get access to the gym entrance from 5 to 9 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. The timeline is still TBD.
 - The spring Gala proceeds will likely be used to renovate the gym next summer with new flooring, lighting, stage curtains, banners, paint, and possibly new bleachers, depending on what we raise.
 - Ten large donors from the capital campaign will have classrooms named after loved ones, and there will be mini-dedication ceremonies for each.
 - The School Advisory Council rotated off Terri Von Lehman, Mike Neff, and John Stewart, and we are grateful for their service. After summer interviews, we are welcoming James Cusick, Brandon Damas, and Alex Kaleida to the council.
 - Accreditation is happening this year, as required by the TCCB every seven years.
 - We're beginning work on developing a strategic plan with our School Advisory Council, which we hope to complete and publish by the fall of 2024.
- ***Pathfinders: Steve Welsh reported via Monte:***
 - Habitat for Humanity Collin County needs volunteers to help a recent widow with cancer in Plano to finish a garage project. Please reach out to pathfinders@poplano.org for more information.
 - Working with Michael to invite ministries to participate in volunteer opportunities that Pathfinders is involved in.
 - ***Outreach: Steve Welsh reported via Monte:***
 - We have a big ministry leader day on Saturday, September 9th. We'll spend time collaborating on the POP Service Days calendar.
 - We are looking for leaders to head up our Welcome Ministry.
 - Planning to bring back Exalt as a parish-wide event. We'll start with a small semester in the spring and follow up with regular semester afterward.
 - We're looking to include meal options and community time before adoration, which we will still have; it will just be earlier, so it won't compete with Exalt.
 - ***Staff Interviews: Greg P. reported:***
 - Greg's interview of Samantha Ayers has been disseminated to the group.
 - ***Knights of Columbus – Steve Wyse reported:***
 - John Szwejkowski was named Knight of Month for July.

- Wayne and An Chen were named Family of the Month for July.
- Jeff Flanagan was named Knight of Month for August.
- Alan and Marianna Thiebaud were named Family of the Month for August.
- The August breakfast was a big success with attendance going up.
- We collected donations for Mater Filius, as part of the Knights ASAP (Aid and Support After Pregnancy) program.
- We are providing a pre-gam meal September 9th for the Catholic Bowl team, St. Edmonds, from Louisiana.
- The next KoC Breakfast will be September 10th.
- The KoC will be volunteering at the Plano Balloon Festival on September 23rd and 24th, as we do every year.
- Wheelchairs will be distributed in Aguascalientes, Mexico this November 14th to the 17th by POP volunteers.
- Sunday, October 15th, the KoC will help put on a Parish Fundraiser Golf Tournament at Top Golf. We're currently hunting for sponsors, with the proceeds being distributed to parish ministries.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Ike

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, September 11th at 7:00 PM, upstairs in the Faith Formation area.